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MADRAS WAR REVIEW

A WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE WORLD WAR

VOL. V FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1944 No. 47

The WRITING *on the* WALL

***Events** inside the Reich itself show that experienced German Generals have seen the writing on the wall*

***Hitler** is merely a symbol of the German lust for power. When the symbol goes, the spirit which created it must still be finally removed. This time, we must make sure it will be utterly crushed and powerless to rise again. Hitler is a link in the chain of those German war lords. This time, we must make quite certain that the chain is finally broken. No punishment however hard, no retribution however thorough and no surrender even unconditional, will completely eliminate the dangers of future aggression by those two hawks of death Germany and Japan*

Mr. ANTHONY EDEN, in a speech in London, on Monday, July 24

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[NOTE.—*The summary of news and comments contained in the* MADRAS WAR REVIEW *generally relate to events and statements published till Wednesday, every week.*]

TURMOIL IN GERMANY

"There are grave signs of weakness in Germany. They are in a state of great turmoil inside and none can measure the extent. They are shooting each other. It might be that fighting might come to an end earlier than we have the right to say."

—MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL, *addressing Royal Air Force men, in Normandy.*

❖

ONLY ONE WAY

"Germany's armies and people are shaken and shot through with doubts, but in no sense are they yet broken. The collapse of the German army is not yet apparent to our men who are locked in combat with a brutal, resourceful and stubburn enemy. Many here, at home, are talking of a quick victory through the collapse of the German army. I assure you that there is only one way to guarantee a speedy end to this war. Our enemies, Germany and Japan, have set their standard of existence on military power. It is the one thing their twisted minds can recognize and measure. As long as they have any reason to believe that they can maintain a degree of equality in that regard, they will fight hard and tenaciously. But when they see they are about to be completely overpowered, when the fact is physically and unmistakably carried to their doorsteps, then, and, only then, will they collapse."

—MR. HENRY STIMSON, *the United States War Secretary, in a broadcast speech, on Wednesday, July 26.*

❖

INDIAN TROOPS ALWAYS ON THE FOREFRONT

"What I saw and heard while in England convinced me of the high determination of every man and woman to achieve complete victory and lasting peace, no matter what the sacrifice involved might be.

"In Italy, I saw all the three Indian Divisions and found them full of courage and spirits. The Indian troops are always in the forefront of battle and are glad to be there. Whenever I saw an Indian unit moving up the front, I watched the faces of the men. Each face was wreathed in smiles. No wonder that every Commander I met had only praise and admiration for the Indian soldier."

—HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, *in a speech on Sunday, July 23.*

❖

KEY TO JAPAN

"The Pacific Islands of Guam, Tinian, and Saipan in the Marianas form the key which will unlock the door to Japan, the Philippines and the coast of China. The sea, air and land forces fighting in the Marianas have demonstrated a staying power unparalleled in naval warfare, but we still have a long way to go to Tokyo, and somewhere along the route the enemy must fight with all his remaining strength.

"No aid or comfort should be taken from the formation of the new Cabinet. Japan will conduct her war with all the power she possesses, and we can expect some changes in its methods."

—MR. JAMES FORRESTAL, *the United States Secretary of the Navy, in a statement on Tuesday, July 25.*

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HITLER AND HIS HOME FRONT

THE two most sensational events that have happened on the enemy's home front are the resignation of the Tojo Cabinet on July 18 and the attempt on Hitler's life on July 20. Both are the results of the worsening of the war situation, but they should not be taken as signs of an impending collapse. The attempt to assassinate Hitler has overshadowed the political crisis in Japan, because it was a public indication, for the first time, of the fact that an influential section in the German military machine itself wanted to overthrow Hitler. In a speech soon after the bomb exploded near him, Hitler said, " A very small clique of ambitious, irresponsible and, at the same time, senseless and criminally stupid, officers had formed a plot to eliminate me and, with me, the staff of the German Wehrmacht Command." It is significant that the Fuehrer has not accused either the " Jews " or " Communists," for the outrage, but a small group of German officers in Germany itself. The object of this group which represents the Army is evidently to bring about a negotiated peace which might yet avert complete disaster and give them the opportunity of " refighting this conflict in ten, twenty or fifty years' time ".

IT is interesting to examine the causes which have led to the split between the German Army and the Nazi Party. So long as Hitler was willing to serve as its tool the Army allowed him the fullest power. It helped him to realise his dreams of conquest and got everything it wanted to make it the most perfect military machine in the world. This combination worked satisfactorily till Hitler attacked Russia as against the wishes and warnings of his professional Generals. The German victories on the Eastern Front in 1941 led them to hope that, after all, Hitler might be able to pull off yet another victory. But the German disaster in the Battle of Stalingrad widened the differences between the Party and the Army. There was a considerable section who began to hope that, in course of time, the Generals would revolt against Hitler, wrest power from his hands and retain for Germany the advantages already won.

HITLER sensed the turn things were taking and began to strengthen his own position by replacing Generals of suspected or doubtful loyalty by his own Nazi henchmen. This attempt to Nazify the German Army began after Stalingrad. Himmler whom the Fuehrer appointed as the Commander-in-Chief of the German Home Army immediately after the failure of the attempt on his life, revealed at the beginning of last year that he had established a separate headquarters behind the lines in Russia and that the *S.S. Verfuegungstruppe*, a branch of the " Waffen S.S." (Hitler's political army consisting of staunch Nazi supporters), was so distributed at the Russian front as to be stationed among other units of the regular army. Hitler's henchmen were conveniently sprinkled among the army units with a view to seeing that disaffection did not spread among regular officers and that they did not turn disloyal to Hitler. Two months ago, regular political instruction was introduced as a subject in the education of the soldier. Dr. Ley, opening a new school for Officer Cadets in the Mark Brandenburg on May 17, declared that the Nazi Party was " the fountain-head " of German strength. Giving an account of the ceremony, the D.N.P. wrote, " It is for the first time that we are going to apply completely new methods in training future officers."

THE rift between the Party and the Army began to grow to such an extent that their journals showed evidences of mutual dislike. For instance, the *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, the paper of the Prussian militarists and Junker landowners, published obituary notices without any eulogistic references to the Fuehrer. But the *Voelkischer Beobachter*, the Nazi party journal, invariably described the fallen soldier as having " died for the Fuehrer ". Broadly speaking, the attempt on Hitler's life may be stated to mark the culmination of the differences between the Party and the Army. Referring to this Mr. Churchill said, " There are signs of weakness in Germany. They are in a state of great turmoil inside and none can be sure of the extent."

THERE seems to be two schools of thought now in Germany. One seems to believe that the war can be won by political trickery, failing military methods; the other believes that Germany is bound to be defeated and prolongation of the conflict might mean the end of German militarism for all time to come. But neither political trickery nor military stratagem can avert what is in store for Germany. It is of course premature to see in the attempt on Hitler's life signs of an early German collapse, but at the same time it may not be unduly optimistic to believe, as Mr. Churchill said, that " the fighting might come to an end earlier than we have the right to say."

RUNNING COMMENTARY

Red Army's Drive to Warsaw The Red Army has taken a number of important towns in its onward march towards the frontiers of Germany. A new offensive was launched by the Russians last week from Kovel, north of Lwow, and Marshal KONIEV's great army broke a strong enemy defence system with its powerful armoured spearheads and massive air forces. Two big outflanking drives have been launched north and south of Lwow, HITLER's main base in southern Poland. In central Poland Marshal ROKOSSOVSKY's troops have swarmed across the Bug. Lublin, 96 miles south-east of Warsaw, has fallen and the Red Army is poised for a direct assault on Warsaw, the Polish capital. In the Northern sector, the ancient city of Pskov, the last German base in North Russia, which is 160 miles southwest of Leningrad, and situated on the Estonian and Latvian borders, has been captured. The fall of Pskov clears the Germans from the entire pre-1939 Soviet territory. The Nazi stronghold of Narva in Estonia has also been captured. This is the first big Estonian town to be captured by the Russians.

Viewing the situation on the Russian front as a whole, we see that the gigantic operations launched by the Red Army have forced the Germans to the position of defending their own soil against attack. The main purpose of the German commanders now seems to be to keep a coherent front "in being," however far westwards they may be driven. As for the Russians, their object is to disrupt and destroy the German forces and to strike at the heart of Germany itself. Hitherto Russian successes were counted in the liberation of so many 'inhabited localities' or an advance of so many miles, but in future it will be counted in the creation of a number of areas of penetration along the frontiers of the Reich.

* * * *

Extended Battle-line and Insufficient Forces We have already referred to the fact that the Germans had miscalculated by expecting that the Russians would begin by resuming the spring offensive which had carried them from the Dnieper bend to the Carpathians. That was the reason why they strengthened the southern sectors covering Lwow at the expense of Central or White Russian front, as they had not anything like a sufficient

Mr. Winston Churchill inspects a Cromwell tank mounting a 75 mm. gun now operating in Normandy.

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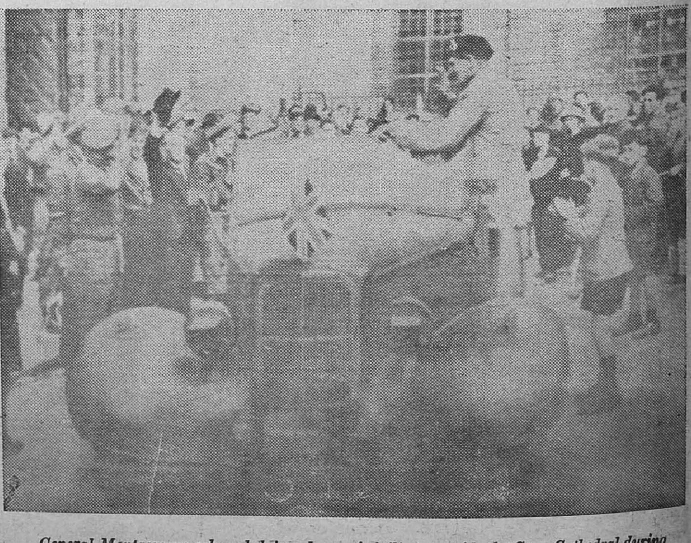
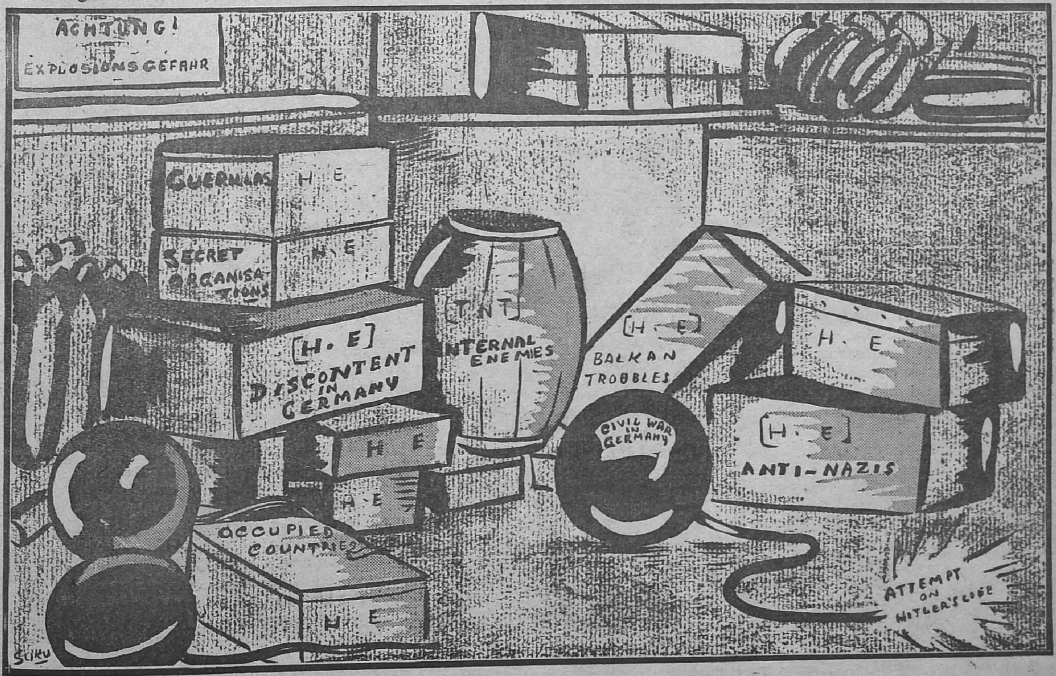


General Montgomery acknowledging cheers of civilians outside the Caen Cathedral during a visit to the liberated town, on July 11.

After General Montgomery had presented awards to airborne troops, he himself received an award—a bouquet of roses from these three little French children.

force to attend to the requirements of their far too extended battle-line. Even if they had not miscalculated and strengthened their defence line in the Minsk area, the Russians who had the initiative fully in hand could easily have switched their opening offensive elsewhere. In such circumstances, the only sensible course for the Germans was to withdraw to a much shorter line before the Russians were ready to attack. But time and again the Germans were made to suffer frightful losses in pursuance of the policy of clinging to every mile of territory to the very last. It is stated that this is due to HITLER's personal insistence, and it may well be true. For the German war effort has become so dependent on the Eastern belt of conquered or satellite countries stretching from the Baltic to the Black Sea that HITLER might well have feared that sudden withdrawals might result in the collapse of the entire edifice.

But the crazy strategy of withdrawal after suffering heavy losses has not helped the Germans in any way. On the other hand, it has made the German war machine rickety. What the Germans now seem to be doing is, not attempting to re-establish a continuous organized front in the centre, but to hold selected focal points by sending



a limited number of divisions to the required areas. The German situation on the Eastern front is such that it may be described as a very limited response to a major emergency, and this seems to confirm the belief long held by competent military authorities that the existence of large "strategic reserves" inside Germany is nothing else but a propaganda myth.

* * *

German Race Against Time Now the Germans are running a race against time. They are faced with the formidable task of getting their 16th and 18th Armies out of the Baltic Republics and regrouping them along the line covering East Prussia and Warsaw, before the Russian advance increases in momentum. This task of rebuilding a new central front on a shorter and more westerly line will become easy if the garrison troops in Poland and Czechoslovakia are pushed forward beyond Warsaw as a temporary screen. But such an arrangement may make matters worse by giving an opportunity to Polish and Czech underground movements to come out into the open and work against the Germans.

JAPS PROVIDED BATTLE COURSE REALISM

British and Indian troops at a reinforcement camp at Kanglatongbi, on the Imphal front, where they were to undergo their final "battle course" meeting the Japs, found the course considerably speeded up by the Japs themselves, who attacked them during the night.

Carrying with them large quantities of ammunition, stores, and rations, the reinforcement camp, consisting of nearly 2,300 men, moved seven miles within 24 hours to take up defence positions at Kanglatongbi. Within another 24 hours they had moved again to another position, where they resisted an enemy attack and inflicted heavy casualties, writes an Indian Army Observer.

After keeping night-long vigils for nearly a week and working throughout the day the camp received orders to move and take up defence positions at Kanglatongbi. It was a pitch dark night and no lights could be used owing to the proximity of the Japs.

Working there the whole night and the following day British and Indian troops—Sikhs, Mahrattas and Madrasis—assisted in evacuating many tons of stores, reserve rations for 14 days for the 2,300 men and large quantities of ammunition, including 3,000 3-inch mortar bombs and a quarter of a million rounds, leaving nothing for the enemy. All bunkers and defensive positions were completely destroyed.

Within another 24 hours they had to move to new defensive positions, where they were attacked by a strong force of the enemy. All the combatants and non-combatants who normally compose a reinforcement camp combined together and inflicted heavy casualties.

SESHIAH, THE CURIOUS VILLAGER

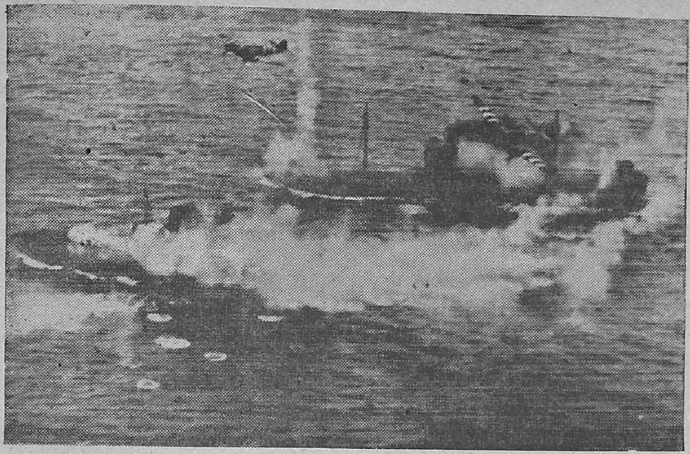
(*By* **R.G.**)

CANTO III—*Instalment II*

And when the Nazis struck again
Across the Aisne and Marne and Seine,
And France went down, a mangled heap
Of brave men mixed with human sheep,
Of some who fought and some who fled
And some who had been better dead
But floated to the top like scum
And made their peace with Nazidom,
And got at last what they deserved,
The scorn of even those they served--
Seshiah shuddered at the tale
And thought the Nazis must prevail--
Or would have thought so, had not he
Heard from a friend who chanced to be
A-waiting at a railway station
And overheard a conversation
Between an Englishman and one
Who said the English were undone.
"Now Hitler's finished with the Dutch
And got poor Belgium in his clutch
And downed the French" (the first man said)
"You English are as good as sped.
For ere you can your shores protect
The Nazis doubtless will collect
A vast flotilla of big boats
And every thing that sails or floats,
And every tank and gun and man'll
Be flung across the English Channel.
A Danish skipper told me that
All barges, every kind of flat. . ."

But here the Englishman broke in,
Betraying amusement with a grin:
"We've heard of those flat-bottomed barges
Before. And if but one discharges
Its load beneath the cliffs of Dover
Or even struggles half-way over,
I'll eat, instead of tarts and pies,
A gross or two of Goebbels' lies,
And even offer to admit
This pestilential little squit,
This self-promoted Corporal Hitler
Than the great Boney is no littler.
We know that we are in for trouble:
But Germany is in for double."

Seshiah when he heard this tale
Knew Nazi might would not prevail.
"The British are not quite like us
And sometimes seem ridiculous,"
He said, "But when there's danger near
In days of sorrow, gloom and fear,
They rise superior to their neighbours
And laugh amid unending labours.
The worse the current situation,
The greater their exhilaration--
A people stiff and proud and odd,
But peerless in a pinch, by God!
They save themselves by their exertions
And half the world by their excursions."
(Which is just what was said by Pitt
Excepting in the second bit.)



British beaufighter making a low-level attack on armed German escort vessels off Normandy on July 18. The entire convoy was left on fire or damaged. Three ships sank, two others were left blazing. A large Coastal Command force which included Canadian, Australian, Newzealand and Royal Air Force squadrons, took part in this action

Captain Gille, President of Calvados Committee of Liberation, and M. Dauvre, Prefect of Calvados, welcome the first British troops to enter Caen.

THE DEAD

(*By* ANONYMOUS)

Translated from the French

Break one pane of glass, one only,
In his eagle's nest, there on high,
Whence it was so practical and simple
To send them to death.

Let his head be thrust through it and held
there by force
So he may see passing by, his own people,
Just his own people; that will suffice.
As for the others : we shall see later.

The four thousand thousand of his own people—
Doubtless, I underestimate—
It is not finished yet,
There will soon be as many again.

Passing by, one by one, bent beneath their
packs and so tired—
Undulating huge snake—
Dragging their feet, poor bodies
Tired so tired before they are dead.

One by one, and day and night, and day after
day, and unceasingly
Like the shadow of a lighthouse's beam:
One, and one, and another, and another,
Without respite, without respite nor end.

Passing and passing, under the sun, under the
moon,
Passing under the sun, under the moon,
Under the sun-oh, under the moon.
Will not there soon be passing the last of them ?

My God! My God! Passing by . . . Look,
already
A week has already passed,
Let me rest and sleep
Have I not seen enough of them ?
Have I not seen them all ? Since first I began
to hear
One by one these dismal shadows
Passing by, each making
The sound of a book-leaf being turned over ?
Since these hundreds, these hundreds of hours
that this has been going on ?
Well, let us snigger : "Patience."
Can you no longer calculate
The time needed for a march-past ?
You know perfectly well the time needed for a
battalion
To march past you, three by three.
Why should you want the pace to be quicker
For them to pass by in the other direction ?
If one week seems long to you, what will you
say of a season ?
The whole season needed for them to pass by,
One behind the other, as they go,
And even there are some who push from behind.
And when you will have later to see passing
by the others all the others,
The Russians, the Jews, the women, the little
children
Will you find long for your Patience
Summer, Autumn and Winter ?

POLITICAL RIGHTS*

LAST time I was discussing the social freedom of Englishman and pointed out that the right of association is not only social but a foundation of political rights. The next right to be mentioned is also partly social and partly political; and its assertion in increasing measure during the past century and a half has much to do with the stability that England has enjoyed while other countries were subject to revolution. It may be called the right to development or the right to ambition—a form of what Napoleon called "*la carriere ouverte aux talens*." In former centuries there was (as in some countries to this day there is) a barrier almost insuperable between the privileged and the unprivileged, so that a man had no freedom to move upwards from the rank in which he was born. A mark of this survives in the Catechism of the Church of England, where a part of my duty towards my neighbour is said to be "to learn and labour truly to get mine own living, and to do my duty in that state of life unto which it shall please God to call me." But while the difficulties of rising in the world are greater in England than in some other countries, there is no hard and fast dividing line between classes. Noble birth and the status of being a gentleman are recognized but it is a part of English freedom that any man or woman may aspire to the highest office in the land; or to the peerage (if a title is desired), or to the accumulation of the largest fortune that income tax and excess profits taxes will permit.

FREEDOM OF EDUCATION

This liberty is still growing and has been reinforced by the freedom of education as it grew. "Give me the liberty to know, to utter and to argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties" exclaimed John Milton. The English in Mediaeval and Tudor times gave education to the poor scholar more readily than most peoples. In translating the scriptures and letting the ordinary man learn to read and understand them they were in advance of all. But they let the Scots, the Americans and the Germans distance them in working out a system of education for all, and it was not till the second half of the 19th century that this most important element of freedom was again valued enough. To this day the critic must remain discontented with the poor man's access to knowledge in England, and, the freedom of the ordinary man to act is limited by ignorance.

This limitation of freedom qualifies the last important liberty of the Englishman that I mean to mention—the liberty which some regard as the only important one, wrongly, since a man who enjoys all those already mentioned is free in nine hundred and ninety-nine circumstances out of every thousand of his life. Still the right to determine the form of his government and to have a share in the control of its conduct—political liberty proper—is one for which the Englishman laboured long and effectively: rightly, because without it none of the other rights could be safe and laws were at the mercy of arbitrary governments. He now suffers from his want of knowledge, because the matters with which a government is called upon to deal both in peace and war have grown so difficult that the ordinary citizen cannot form a reasonable judgment, and in casting a vote for a representative on a party programme has little idea what he is letting himself in for.

CLAIM TO SELF-GOVERNMENT

The Englishman's developing claim to self-government was not accidental. It arose out of those rights I have already mentioned, in exercising which the yeoman and townsman as well as the cleric and the baron grew accustomed to handling his own affairs in his own council, corporation, guild or whatever it might be termed. The right to do so would be recognized by a charter, concerning which the words of G. K. Chesterton are worth repeating:

"The roots of the real England are in the early Middle Ages, and no Englishman will ever understand his own language (or even his own conscience) till he understands them. And he will never understand them till he understands the word "charter". A charter was what the railway workers wanted last Christmas and did not get. It is called in the current jargon 'recognition': the acknowledgment in so many words by society of the immunities or freedoms of a certain set of men. If there had been railways in the Middle Ages there would probably have been a railwaymens guild; and it would have had a charter from the King, defining their rights. A charter is the expression of an idea still true and then almost universal: that authority is necessary for nothing so much as for the granting of liberties . . ."

By R. GALLETTI, I.C.S.

The Great Charter extracted from King John is rightly regarded as a new starting point in the growth of political liberty; and a logical consequence was the formation of a council to discuss and vote the aids and taxes which the king could no longer levy at his will and pleasure, but without which the business of the realm could not be done. The liberty recognized was freedom from arbitrary power; and the invention of representative government made it possible to give this freedom effect. But freedom *from something* (namely, arbitrary power) was in this case much less than freedom *to do something* and to govern oneself. The Stuart Parliaments taught a small section of the people how to make itself the effective governing body by turning Parliament into a kind of Executive Committee of the squires and merchants. The invention of the party system and the development of party organizations covering the whole country made it possible for a much larger number to make their wishes felt by the ministers of the Crown. And when popular demand forced bills through Parliament in the 19th century even against the will of the ministers and against adverse majorities, it seemed that the right of self-government was more than the illusion it had been called by Rousseau.

In this century there has been, the Englishman suspects, more party than popular control over Government in England; and able men have seen in the rule-making power of civil servants something which avoids popular control and defeats the right of self-government. But it is a far cry from the English defects to the autocratic state. The system provides for control over the rulers and redress of grievances whereas as Lord Widgwood says about other systems:

"I am at a loss to imagine how bureaucrats can be kept in check in

* This is the fourth talk broadcast from A.I.R., Madras, last night (27th July 1944) by Mr. R. Galletti, I C.S., in the series 'The Concept of Freedom.' The first, second and third talks were published in the *Madras War Review* of 21st April 1944, 19th May 1944 and 16th June 1944 respectively.

autocratic lands. Professional solidarity must extend to the very highest regions. What can prevent jobbery, nepotism, and the bullying of the subject when there is neither free Press nor free Parliament? Officials may leave school as the devoted servants of the State, but they must end by considering themselves to be the State. One has only to contemplate the fear of our police evinced by 'refugees from Nazi oppression' to realize the complete lack in many Continental countries of any method of remedying grievances against the State. Abject submission, tempered by blackmail, was the normal lot of all mankind, from the time of Pericles to the time of Cromwell . . . For all rebels—Jews, Communists, heretics—outside English-speaking lands there has long been no remedy for grievances—only prostrate submission to a one-eyed Polyphemus or to the Briareus of bureaucracy."

I think a good many Englishmen are conscious that the individual citizen has little chance of influencing his Government; but they do not see any other great nation with a political system more effective for this purpose. And if at elections the choice is limited to two or three men, all put up by parties and all submissive to party control, at least the vote is free and no compulsion or threat will be used to make the Englishman say 'Ja' when he wants to say 'Nein'.

FAVOURITE POINTS

These 'favourite points' of freedom that I have mentioned do not complete the list of the Englishman's liberties, but I think they are all the principal ones. In war-time, liberties are partially surrendered. Bodily liberty is limited by conscription and military service; the claims of the state over property for national use override the claim of the individual to free disposal of his goods; people are not left alone, and what they say and write is subject to a scrutiny formerly thought intolerable; Parliament prolongs itself far beyond its allotted span and does not submit to an accounting with the electorate. But these things are submitted to in order that in due course all liberties may be enjoyed again and some be perfected. The self-respecting Englishman will not be according to Hitler's model as depicted by Bentley in the passage quoted before in this series. He will take his ease in his inn, call no man master except on fair terms, drive his bargains and have them enforced according to law, make a home of his own and invite in friends of any political complexion he pleases, speak his piece when he feels inclined, write letters to the *Times* or the *Daily Worker* when he wants to heckle his politician, denounce his employer, and crack his joke.

The English can hold their ancient liberties and add new ones because they know the Golden Rule of Society—that each must acknowledge the right of others if he is to enjoy his own; a man's own right is not a thing apart and antagonistic to the rights of his neighbours, but a part of the same order and system. They also know the main Theorem of Liberty—that since the powers of the members of Society are not equal, it is essential to set up a guardianship of rights. Freedom cannot exist unless there is first, a developed social conscience and second, a machinery for the systematic organization of law and order. The contribution of the English to the world is that they made the experiments and obtained the results which proved these propositions.

GRADUALNESS

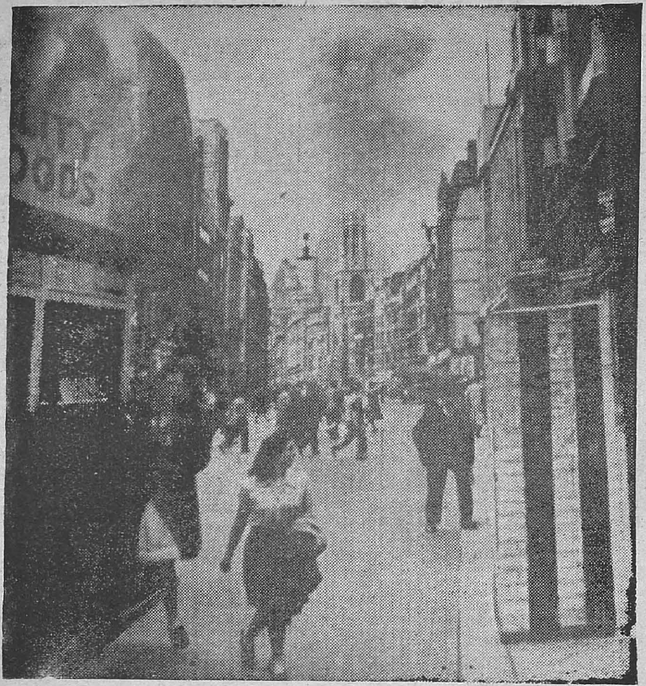
That is not to say that the English freedom has been made perfect. The English way, crystallized in that extraordinary phrase "the inevitability of gradualness," has been to add here a little, there a little, "rule upon rule, line upon line"; to have no revolutions or attempts to wipe the slate clean and build a Utopia by the light of reason, but to let freedom "broaden slowly down from precedent to precedent." Already the advance guards have put into circulation claims for rights going beyond what is already guaranteed. Not many share Shaw's belief that there cannot be liberty without equal incomes for all; but many are fighting for more liberty through equal opportunities for all. Already much has been done in the reduction of privilege and the driving out of dogs in the manger. More will certainly be done, especially in education and in the regulation of economic power; for though the English people are unlikely to subscribe to the doubtful hypothesis that men are equal by nature, and are quite cheerful about recognizing the existence of "betters", too gross an inequality outrages their sense of fair play. Similarly they will not abandon the claim which has not yet become a right that equal work should bring equal rewards. And since starvation is no liberty, they will go further as the years go by in asserting the claim that every Englishman, woman and child should be by law entitled to more than the barest subsistence. Freedom from want is not easily secured; but men like Disraeli knew it to be essential to a truly free and just society long before President Roosevelt proclaimed it one of the Four Freedoms.

IS IT SUFFICIENT?

Is English political freedom sufficient for the development of these claims into rights? Acute observers have denied that the English system of Government is democratic; and it is plain enough to any who compare it with the American or the Swiss system that it has retained a great deal of the old aristocratic rule, if very little of monarchic absolutism. But the English people have known how to win and maintain rights under monarchic absolutism and under oligarchic parliamentary rule. I think it would be only a bigoted critic who would assert that the individual was less free in England than in America or Switzerland in 1930 or 1900 or even 1870. That England has to this day a ruling class in a sense that a truly democratic country has not can hardly be denied. But it can hardly be denied on the other hand that ruling class is responsible to the people in a way not easily matched elsewhere—not because the political institutions make its members answerable to the people at elections, but because it shares the common conscience and the common subjection to law. It has been well observed that the younger branches of the English nobility become commoners, and often enough poor commoners, and the grandchildren of Dukes may marry the sons and the daughters of lawyers, farmers and shop-keepers. The nobility has not, as in so many other countries, a caste conscience distinct from that of the commonalty. So Parliament, even in the House of Lords, reflects the common will of the common people; and when the common people have made up their minds that a claim is just it will not be long before the appropriate law is debated and enacted by Parliament.

VIGILANCE

The political freedom of the English lies less in their formal institutions than in their political awareness. They have got along very well without a written constitution; they could not have got on without a common resistance to laws that were unjust and a common demand for laws that were just. It was an American who said "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty"; but it was the English who had first proved it, by being awake for centuries. They are still awake.



Fleet Street with a pillar of smoke mounting from the Aldwych bomb explosion only quarter of a mile away. But there is no great stir. People get off and on the buses as usual, some passers-by don't even halt or turn round.

A photograph from the Daily Mirror, *London, of a typical daylight 'flying bomb' incident.*

THE FLYING BOMB AS THE COCKNEY SEES IT!

The following is described by an observer as a typical Cockney reaction to flying bombs: "I see it like this. It must take the Germans a lot of trouble to make the ruddy things. Then they have to get them into those pits and up into the air. Then it's quite a long way from France to London, and if they do get to London they've still got to find Hackney. Even then it isn't everyone can find 37, Bulstrode Road: If they do, 10 to 1 I am in the pub."

—*Statesman*, Calcutta.

"SAT SRI AKAL" MEANS DEATH TO JAPS

"We have just a quiet confidence in ourselves and know that man for man we are considerably better than the Jap." In this way a battalion of the 11th Sikh Regiment sums up the results of many months of arduous compaigning on the Arakan and Imphal fronts.

The Sikhs are of finest of the descendants of the ancient Gurus and their warcry, "Sat Sri Akal," is known and feared by many a Jap.

If ever "Buthidaung" should become a battle honour it will surely go to a certain battalion of Sikhs who, fought down bitter opposition and bayoneted and blasted their way into this battered town. It was in this engagement in which their spirit of tenacity and bravery, their initiative and their courage overwhelmed the Japs, that Naik Nand Singh made his assault, typical of the fighting Sikh, which won him the V.C.

The Sikhs made a terrified daylight assault; it seemed that the whole jungle was afire. Artillery played an important part and every imaginable infantry weapon was pounding against the Japs position. The Sikhs were cheering before they went in, their yells demoralized the enemy.

One strong Jap section held. "Blitz" tactics were employed and trench after trench fell to the bayonet and the grenade. Sikh ferocity brought a toll of over 100 dead Japs definitely counted. The dead lost in the jungle, the bodies carried away, and the wounded, will never be known.

From that day the Jap feared the warcry of the Sikh. He knew it meant blood—his blood, for the Sikhs lost few men in the whole operation.

A quick move by river, road and air took the Sikhs to the Imphal front. They were soon in action and their patrols penetrated miles behind the enemy lines. They were attacked for nine hours and beat off all assaults in what was officially announced as "one of the fiercest encounters experienced by the battalion."

Now the Sikhs are pursuing the enemy in their eastward flight following the defeat of Kohima.

GURKHAS DESTROY GUN, ROUT JAPS

How Gurkha, troops on the Imphal front destroyed a Jap 75 millimetre gun and a medium machine gun, routed a large nest of Japs and withdrew without injury has just been told to an Indian Army Observer.

Jem. Pati Ram Gurung was in command of a platoon of 27 men who were ordered to make a hit-and-run raid on "Ring," a well known hill feature. The Gurkhas infiltrated on to the hill so quietly that the enemy discovered their presence only when they were about 20 yards from their six bunkers—but they then opened up with medium and light machine-guns and every other thing they had.

The Gurkhas, who were each carrying five grenades besides rifle or tommy gun, ducked and jumped and used their hitting power as best as they could. The Jemadar, describing the action to me, said, "I was doing exactly what others were. Slinging my tommy gun I took a grenade in each hand, ran towards a bunker, pulled the pins with my teeth and chucked them through the port-hole one after the other. A couple of minutes later I peeped into the bunker and discovered six corpses."

A naik killed three men with his tommy gun, another killed two with his Kukri; a rifleman destroyed three of the men in a bunker with a grenade and another shot down a sniper. In short every Gurkha played his part in either destroying the guns or killing the enemy.

The enemy fire, intense though it was, passed overhead or by the sides of our men; all the Gurkhas came out without a scratch.

The medium machine guns were broken to pieces during the assault but the 75 millimetre gun was found intact. It was too heavy to be brought back and enemy fire was still coming from the bunkers on the other slope of the hill.

By now the Gurkhas had only a couple of grenades left. They decided to use them in destroying the gun.

TRANSPORTATION UNITS KEEP SUPPLIES MOVING.

India's role as a training and supply base for the launching of overseas operations in the east has added new and unforeseen loads to the country's already overstrained transportation system.

The expansion which naturally followed has brought about the creation of new transportation units. Railway, Docks and Inland Water Transport Units have been formed, and they have already proved their worth in operational roles.

Unlike other branches of the service, transportation has units which are entirely composed of tradesmen—fitters, drivers marine, crane drivers and electricians—all of which demands a high degree of technical training. The speedy unloading and loading of vessels at the various ports in India has been made possible by transportation units which supplement the work of civilian labour.

Railway units are employed in large numbers in the construction of railway lines in North-East Assam. The operation of trains in this area is largely in the hands of American and civilian personnel. Transportation units have kept open the lines of communication from Calcutta to the east by running the railway and by working the waterways of the Arakan.

Preceding the entry of Japan into the war, men and materials were sent to Iraq, Iran and the Middle East. The Indian component of the I.W.T. organization in Iraq was built up to a strength of over 10,000 all ranks. Locomotives, railway track, rolling stock, cranes and workshop equipment were sent from India for use on the railways to northern Persia and river craft for utilization on the Tigris and Euphrates rivers for service on the aid-to-Russia supply route. A number of railway units are operating traffic from Basrah through Iraq and Iran moving supplies to Russia.

Owing to the tremendous calls on Indian manpower by other arms and branches of the Services the training of sufficient technical personnel has proved a difficult one but in spite of this the work of ensuring that the goods are delivered goes on without a break a tribute to the men of the transportation units.

ONE COMPANY TOOK MONTANE.

One company alone took the little town of Montane in the central sector in Italy from more than 180 Germans armed with over 20 machine guns, writes an Indian Army Observer with an Indian Division. Over 70 Germans were taken prisoner and 30 killed, with much equipment captured.

Surprise was complete. The attackers swept past an enemy observation post manned by one man whose job, with binoculars and radio set, was to give warning of an attack. He never got the chance. He was taken prisoner, remarking that he had not radioed a warning because he was not keen on fighting anyway and the attack was so swift that his warning would have made no difference.

Twenty-five prisoners were taken in the first five minutes.

OFFICER SAVED FROM BEAR

Sapper Kuttapan of Trivandrum with the bear he shot somewhere in Ceylon.

SOUTH INDIAN ORDERLY'S TIMELY SHOT

A bear-skin now adorns the quarters of Major W. R. Morris, of an Indian Engineer Unit serving somewhere in Ceylon—and the skin was not bought in a shop.

When the Major and his orderly, Sapper Kuttapan, were out on patrol in the jungle recently, they suddenly came upon a bear. Major Morris fired at the bear, but, only wounded, it dropped its offensive tactics for the time being and made off into the jungle.

Half an hour later they again met the animal, venting its anger on a tree. Seeing the party it charged them at a terrific speed. The Major's next shot missed completely, and the bear was only a few yards from him when there was a crack from the left as Sapper Kuttapan, with a single shot from his rifle, brought his officer's attacker to the ground. Though mortally wounded, the bear made yet another effort to reach the Major, who had also fallen, but Kuttapan stepped in and finished the creature off at short range. Kuttapan's home is in Trivandrum.

INDIAN FILM SHOWS IN ITALIAN FRONT LINE

News recently flashed round an Indian Divisional Headquarters resting behind the front line in Italy that an Indian mobile cinema unit had arrived in the area. "Nai Roshni" and "Sand Sakhubai," it was said, were the films to be shown on two successive nights.

Indian troops poured in by the hundred each night. British officers and men who were curious to see an Indian picture also joined the throngs. As they saw the familiar sights of Indian on the screen and heard again their favourite stars Indian troops showed their delight in no uncertain manner. Both films proved extremely popular.

The films are provided by an Indian mobile cinema unit which travels about Italy in three trucks. Responsible for the unit is W.O. R. J. Brown, R.E.M.E., of Sele-road, Hertford. He and a team of Indian soldiers of the I.E.M.E. go from one Indian unit to another not neglecting even the smallest and often showing Indian films closed to the front line.

Films for the troops are carefully selected. Those which proved popular in India are booked for showing to the men who are fighting so successfully in a campaign far from their homes.

It was a traffic jam of the good old pre-war brand, and the driver of the Army lorry got fed-up.

So when he saw an errand-boy walking along the pavement, he called out:

"I say, sonny anything up in front?"

"Yus," replied the Cockney lad quickly; "the copper's gone to lunch an' left 'is 'and up."

TWO PHASES OF AIR OFFENSIVE

By WING COMMANDER L. V. FRASER

ONE thing emerges clearly now from the vast, complicated operations which have set the Allies firmly on the shores of France. It was done expeditiously, as perhaps otherwise it could not have been done at all, by the integration of sea, land and air strength never previously equalled.

The present battle can be viewed as a remarkable example of long-term planning and deadly execution on the part of the Allied Air Staffs, drawing on nearly five years of experience of air war. Their dual object has been achieved. They have cancelled out Germany's geographical advantage of fighting on interior lines, and hammered the enemy's war industries with such effect that he is finding replacements of vital equipment an almost impossible task.

During the fierce battle south of Caen British infantry dig a slit trench on the edge of a cornfield near Verson on July 10. Verson was captured in the face of heavy enemy mortar and gun fire.

AIR ARM'S SHARE

The air arm's share in the great operation falls into two main phases and several subordinate ones. One main phase is the operations against industries carried out on a mounting scale between the end of 1940 and the late spring of 1944. The other is the air assault delivered with astounding weight and accuracy during the few hours preceding the actual landing on June 6.

The long-term assault launched by the Royal Air Force by night and the American air forces by day was aimed at Germany's industrial machine and intended to stem his flow of replacements. Later events have revealed that in this endeavour the Allies were very successful.

The enemy's shortage of essential weapons in the East was already apparent when the Russians drove his southern armies over the Rumanian and Polish borders this spring. Germany did not possess aircraft, tanks, flak, petrol and motor transport in sufficient quantities to permit large-scale counter-attacks.

MARKED DEFICIENCIES

To-day in France his deficiencies seem to be as marked. He is known to be suffering from some shortage of tanks, for his huge losses in the recent Russian campaigns have been irreplaceable.

In the Normandy engagements there have been several instances of German units employing French and German tanks of outmoded design. To-day, instead of possessing superiority and the ability to switch reserves, reinforcements and supplies wherever they are needed over the vast network of Continental railways, the enemy finds himself gravely handicapped by the presence of so many potential transport targets, all of them vulnerable from the air.

SECOND PHASE

Without the sealing down of the 24-hour air assault upon enemy industries and transport, the Allies opened their second major phase of strangulation. This departure, which commenced some 10 days before the landings, was nothing more or less than the "boxing" of the north-west corner of France. It aimed at cutting off from the rest of the Continent the angular block of land south-west of the Seine and north of the Loire.

Save for a gap of about 70 miles between Paris and Orleans, these the large rivers isolate Normandy, Brittany and Maine from the rest of France. If all bridges over these two swift-flowing rivers were to be destroyed, the Germans would have grave difficulty in rushing reinforcements, and even graver difficulty, should the battle go against them, in retiring the remnants of their armies.

BRIDGES SMASHED

It was the task of the air forces, therefore, to smash those bridges. But it could not be done all at once. Such tactics would have revealed for certain where the Allied assault would strike. Before "D" Day, then, the Seine bridges were the targets. That gave nothing away. The enemy could not know whether he were to be attacked to the east or west of that river.

Many types of aircraft, from heavy bombers to fighter-bombers, were used. The Seine bridges were hit one by one, some smashed, some severely damaged.

These attacks bore fruit on "D" Day. When the time came for Germany to rush reinforcements of war material north and north-west, the enemy found every rail and road hamstrung in one way or another.

Only after "D" Day, when the vital secret "where" was no longer secret, could air power proceed to close the lid of the box by attacking also bridges across the Loire. One by one these bridges also fell, until the north-west corner of France, chosen by the Allies for the first battleground, was largely isolated from any full-scale and unimpeded reinforcement.

COASTAL BATTERIES

The eve of "D" Day saw the final phase of the Allied air arm's complicated campaign. Special tasks, which synchronized with the land assault, had to be carried out. On the night of June 5–6 over 1,300 aircraft of Bomber Command set out for the Continent, over 1,000 of these carried 5,000 tons of bombs, destined to fall upon 10 specially selected coastal batteries, all of which would have fired directly into the field of the approaching armada. Those ten batteries were swiftly accounted for as direct results, and thousands of Allied lives were spared.

When the coastal batteries had been disposed of, 1,300 American bombers took off from Great Britain in day-light. They dropped over 5,000 tons on gun emplacements and defensive works and they performed the additional function of supplying immediate support to the first parties of paratroops and storming parties. Within an hour of dawn, the first beachheads had been won, and over the men who won them, in a vast protective screen, was the Allied shield of fighter aircraft.

ROLE OF AIRBORNE UNITS

By LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR DOUGLAS BROWNRIGG

Lieutenant-General Crocker, British Second Army Corps Commander (right), *talking to French civilians who remained in Caen throughout the battle.*

IT is scarcely 30 years since aircraft first flew over the battlefield. Yet now air power exercises a predominant influence in war.

It is hardly necessary to affirm the air supremacy made it possible for "invasion" fleets to assemble in the ports of Southern England, or that it was to a large extent because custody of the skies over the English Channel and the French coast was in the hands of Allied airmen that convoys were able to make their hazardous passage with so little loss.

These facts are generally speaking, well understood, but how many people have noticed the effect that air power is already having on tactics on the field of battle?

Many elements go to make up victory, but in Normandy no factor has exercised greater influence on the course of the operations than the airborne landings deep behind the crust of the hostile defences. Those landings were only feasible because airmen of the United Nations had already secured supremacy in the air over places where paratroops dropped and gliders landed.

SHAPE OF MODERN BATTLE

To my mind no war news was of greater import than the sentence in one S.H.A.E.F. communiqué which told of the fact that airborne and seaborne troops had effected contact on the ground. This was in effect an announcement that the shape of modern battle had been altered and it was air power which had altered it.

Let me justify that statement.

In other wars (and earlier in the present struggle) it had been necessary to pierce the front or get round the flank in order to reach the enemy's vitals. That doctrine no longer holds.

Air power has made it possible to put a large force well in the rear of the enemy's prepared defences. And, what is more to keep it supplied when it has got there. The increased lifting power of the Hamilcar Glider has greatly strengthened the offensive-defensive front which an airborne force can offer to the enemy in whose midst it has established itself. Such a force, with its anti-tank guns and armoured fighting vehicles which it has brought with it by air, can be self-reliant and self-supporting for some time against the worst that the enemy can do against it.

ADVANCE GUARD

In effect, airborne troops form a kind of advanced guard to their comrades advancing along the ground against the enemy's outer crust, but by reason of the method of their arrival they are temporarily separated from the main bodies they have preceded. That is the stage of evolution now reached upon the battlefield.

But is it too fantastic to suggest that this evolution will continue, that gradually the proportionate strength of airborne formations will increase until they become the main punch of the attack? May we not see airborne formations becoming the main bodies in the advance, the ground forces developing into mere escorts for the most heavy weapons, which are still earthbound and must reach the battlefield by road or rail?

It was not until 1935 that parachute descent was made in public by a military formation. This happened at the Russian manoeuvres of that year. Nine years' progress has made the airborne soldier as important as any other participant in the battle.

It is curious that Britain should have been the first to exploit on a really big scale a project devised by another nation, whilst the Germans achieved success in 1940 by developing an invention of our own—the tank.

Tank tactics have already altered the whole composition of armies and I do not think it is any exaggeration to say that airborne tactics will necessitate laying entirely new foundations on which to build the defence forces of all nations in the days which follow the defeat of Germany and Japan.

GURKHA TROOPS' OWN NEWSPAPER

A troop of Gurkhas from a brigade reconnaissance unit were driving up the winding road leading to the town of Monte S. Maria in Italy a few hours after it had been captured by British troops of an Indian division when they met an Indian Army Observer. He was able to hand them the latest copy of their own newspaper, "Gurkha Samachar," produced by the Indian Army Public Relations Directorate.

The delighted Gurkhas took it at once and a drive started to read it aloud. Suddenly they heard the scream of a heavy German shell and dived into the ditch. The Germans had no doubt seen the jeeps coming up the hill and flung out searching shells.

After the burst the driver stood up and, not worrying about the shells, went on reading.

Little known outside the Indian Army the paper is very welcome to all Gurkha troops, giving them as it does home news of their friends and sister battalions on other fronts in their own language.

HANDICAPPED

"You're a horrid brute," sobbed wifey to her husband. "I'd go back to mother—if I knew where her unit was stationed."

U-BOATS BAFFLED

By A. J. MacWHINNIE

ADMIRAL Karl Doenitz, German Naval Commander-in-Chief, is being forced into desperate action. It is difficult to foresee what he can do to achieve anything more than pinpricking Allied activities at sea. But he must do something.

He had great hopes for the E-boats, his fast motor warships, which he believed might smash up the Allied assault ships when they were approaching the Continent. E-boats are credited by neutrals with a speed of 48 knots and are faster than some types of British motor-craft, but the British chose gunpower before speed.

E-boats, many times during the last few months, have chosen the use of their high speed to escape. In all cases, British motor torpedo boats, motor gun boats and motor launches have chosen the use of their gunnery superiority in pursuit. E-boats, in all cases where they have encountered British light coastal forces lately, have found themselves hopelessly outgunned.

U-BOATS' HAZARDS IN THE CHANNEL

The handful of French-based destroyers and torpedo boats are helpless against the overwhelming superiority of the British naval force, apart altogether from American naval strength in the Channel. Two hundred British minesweepers have achieved spectacular success in clearing German mines away from the Allied Cross-Channel convoys.

U-boats have been beaten in the vast deep waters of the Atlantic, where at least there is space and depth in which to attempt escape. How then can U-boats escape in the narrow waters of the English Channel—little more than 200 feet deep? There is sanctuary only at the bottom.

Neutral listening posts report that a new submarine freak has been devised by the Germans, with a fantastic speed of something like 30 knots. But there is no evidence that this is so. In the meantime, Doenitz may decide to send the normal U-boat into the narrow waters of the Channel to test the possibilities of attacking—and returning. There is little doubt that the normal submarine sent on such a hazardous mission will not return. For her crew there can only be two alternatives—death or capture.

RE-CHARGING WHILE SUBMERGED

From one neutral capital it is reported that German submarine scientists are trying to find a way of re-charging U-boat batteries while still submerged. There are only about four hours of darkness in every 24 hours. Even in darkness the U-boats dare not surface. Delicate Allied naval instruments can pierce the darkest nights and the thickest fogs. But Doenitz may hope for some way of re-charging under water if only he can discover some device for bringing down air from the surface while re-charging is in progress.

NORMANDY—British troops go up in a line on Hill 113 on July 16 during the attack on the Odon valley.

But even if he manages that, his U-boat anxieties are not alleviated. The strain on U-boat men being constantly under water would be too terrific to make it worthwhile. If the Channel is the most dangerous stretch of water for U-boats in the world, U-boat men must be fresh and fit to undertake these hazards. Under the strain of being constantly submerged when out on patrol, no U-boat man can be completely fit. And wherever U-boats may try to enter the Channel they will find themselves always within the range of Allied warships.

NAVAL REGATTA

The Channel resembles an Allied naval regatta. Before "D" Day it would have been reasonable to expect at least 10 per cent Allied shipping losses in making the first landings. The losses from all causes up-to-date have been unbelievably small.

The result is that hundreds of highly skilled British naval officers and ratings who formed a reserve pool to replace casualties have been hardly drawn upon. I met one officer of the Western Front Naval Reserve Pool recently. I knew him first in 1943, with a famous anti-submarine sloop. He bemoaned his inability to get a chance to fight in the opening stages of the assault on Hitler's Europe. He said: "I am just using my time picking up any little trip I can. I went off with a submarine. Another day I begged a trip in a flying boat. All I want is to get into the picture. But casualties have been so light that there has been no opportunity."

DEARTH OF U-BOATS

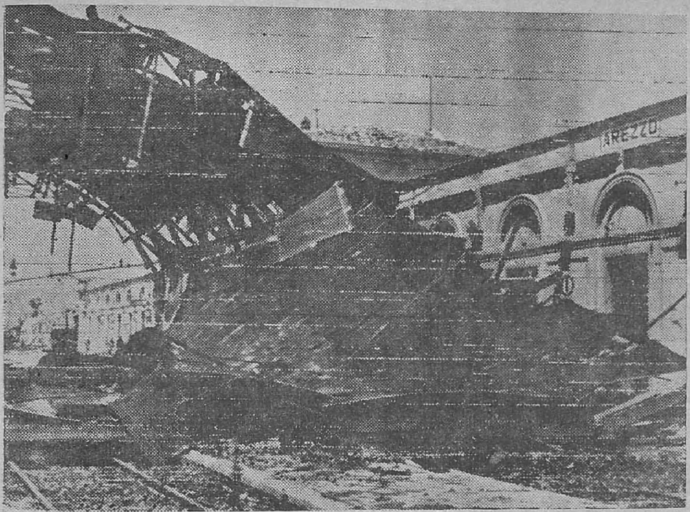
That day I met a young United States Navy Officer feeling just as cut off from the greatest naval exploit the world has ever known. He came over to the English Channel as Commanding Officer of a submarine chaser. "But the dearth of U-boats in the Channel has been disappointing," he said. "I am spending a lot of my time acting as despatch boat between Britain and France, but hoping on every trip that the Germans will be forced into some desperate attempt to bring their U-boats out."

BACK TO NORMAL IN MANIPUR

Within ten days of the opening of the Manipur road by Indian and British troops goods for civilian comforts were coming down. The road has also been opened for civilian traffic.

Though the needs of the Manipuris are small cigarettes are important for men and women and are often a token of friendship between troops and the local population. A cigarette tin is commonly used as a measure; packet of cigarettes which cost two rupees during the time when Imphal was being supplied by air only has come down to six annas.

Salt, another essential commodity, used to cost ten rupees a seer; it is now a little less than four. Soap, oil, vegetables, have also become normal in price and the Manipuri, who has been quite cheerful during the last few months, has now become positively joyful as normal life is restored and the Japs are driven off.



GERMANS EVACUATE AREZZO (ITALY)—The battered railway station of Arezzo. The town fell to Eighth Army troops on July 16.

A Rhodesian battery, on the Italian front, July 19. Major-General Everard Pooie, Commander-in-Chief of the Sixth South African Armoured Division, at one of the guns of the Rhodesian battery, which, together with the rest of the divisional artillery took a major share in the breaking of the German resistance near Castel Noovo-Arezzo area in the drive on Florence. With the General is Major E. Pothergill, M.G. and bar, from Rhodesia.

ITALIAN GIRL HELPED TO CAPTURE GERMANS

After troop of an Indian division had taken the town of Montan in the central sector in Italy, an Italian girl delivered six German prisoners into their hands, writes an Indian Army Observer.

Three Germans went to her farm-house, forced their way in and decided to stop the night. While they were asleep the girl managed to steal their arms, which she hid. She then slipped out, made her way to the Allied lines and told British officers exactly where the Germans were sleeping.

A section of troops went to the house. As the Germans came out with their hands up the girl made a face at them and gave them a cheeky courtesy.

She repeated her performance with three more Germans the following night.

FRONT LINE REDCAPS IN ITALY

Lance-Corporal Dennis Jones, from Norfolk, and Lance-Naik Mohd. Khan, from the Punjab, are front-line policemen. They are also redcaps who have never 'taken' anyone, for that is not their job—their work has nothing in common with that of the M.Ps. who patrol the towns.

I found the front-line policemen on a shell-torn road in Italy, guiding convoys which were creeping up to forward Indian troops in the darkness without lights, writes an Indian Army Observer. Undisturbed by the flash of the big guns and the crump of the shells bursting nearby they controlled the convoys under fire as calmly as if they were on duty in Chowringhee in Calcutta.

In the Indian formations fighting in Italy the front-line police are 50 per cent British and 50 per cent Indian. The Indians are mostly Gurkhas, Sikhs or Punjabis.

You will always find these battle redcaps right behind the forward troops. They laconically say that their job is "traffic control." But you have to see them in action to realize just what traffic control means in the firing line.

One of their jobs is to show trucks the path through cleared minefields by night, which is no picnic. To do this they set out hurricane lamps blacked out inside and out with only a hole the size of an anna to show the way.

As soon as the first Indian troops forced their way across the Sangro river the M.Ps. followed ready to guide traffic carrying rations and ammunition across bridges thrown across the swollen river by engineers. The redcaps guided them across practically under the muzzles of the German guns so that the bridgehead could be consolidated.

One of their chief jobs is to keep traffic moving when shelling starts. One panicky driver can tie up and perhaps write off a whole convoy. But an imperturbable redcap is always there to keep him moving and stop a bottleneck before it starts.

To do this requires a good deal of personal courage and hard training. Most of the front line M.Ps. had a stiff three months' course in the Middle East but some, because of the exigencies of war, have been drafted straight from units—and they are doing just as well as the others.

FLEET THAT NEVER PUTS TO PORT

By MAJOR GEORGE FIELDING ELIOT

ON the European and Pacific fronts the relentless march of United Nations' military strength is bringing closer to the peoples of Germany and Japan the grim realisation that their defeat is certain.

In the Pacific the record of Task Force No. 58 is a demonstration of the way in which we have evolved a combination of air and naval might specially adapted to the problem of carrying on a broad, continuing offensive at great distance from home bases over a wide expanse of sea.

The most striking single fact about Task Force No. 58 is its ability to keep going. For over a month it has been in action on a broad front. Since June 10 it has carried out six major attacks in the Pacific some 6,000 miles from continental United States and within 1,500 miles of Japan proper.

FIRST ACTION

Its first action was by carrier-based bombers and fighter planes, together with naval gunfire, against Saipan, Rota, Guam and Tinian, paving the way for landings. Three days later, thousands of miles northward, the enemy bases of Bonin and Volcano islands, 500 miles from Japan, were heavily hit to neutralize their usefulness as bases for enemy counter-attack and as links in the chain whereby reinforcement might come to the Saipan defenders. Four days later, westward of Guam, Task Force No. 58 beat down an attack by massed Japanese carriers launched against it and the invading fleet under its protection. Carrier fighters and anti-aircraft fire wiped out 402 attacking planes. The following day carrier groups from Task Force No. 58 pursued the fleeing Japanese force that attempted the earlier air strike. The planes sank at least two carriers and two tankers; dozens of other ships were damaged. On June 23 Task Force No. 58 struck Pagan Island, in the northern Marianas, keeping the links between Saipan and Tokyo cut. On July 3 Task Force No. 58 hit Bonin and Volcano islands once more, smashing enemy destroyers, supply ships, harbour installations and shore fortifications.

All this time naval units participated in the reduction of Saipan's defences by naval gunfire, guarded transports and supply ships operating off shore, kept a continuous flow of reinforcement material going on the beaches.

Now Guam and Rota have been under attack for the ninth straight day by carrier planes and surface guns.

The duration of this attack indicates not only that we have the kind of naval force Japan has not dared challenge in fleet engagement; it means we can make constant use of the seas we command and have the mobility and endurance in a fleet that makes it a new kind of naval weapon.

Beside the staying power of Task Force No. 58 there are several other elements making it formidable. One of these is its range—not only the distance it can obtain from its own bases but the range of seaways it can include in its sphere of effective operation. In the days it has been asea it has attacked widely scattered points demonstrating speed and mobility never before seen in large battle fleets.

Its versatility is another characteristic. It has been used against shore batteries, surface vessels, air fields, and against massed air attack. It has destroyed ground installations and shipping, supported landings, covered transports. During all its varied engagements it has been prepared to meet the Japanese fleet.

New principles of naval organization and use have gone hand in hand with improved construction to reduce the vulnerability of our ships. Along with their tremendous increase in effectiveness as a striking force has gone an increase in defensive power.

Task Force No. 58 is not merely a thing of steel, iron, guns, planes. It is a result of independent, imaginative thinking and utilization of bitter lessons, and a daring willingness to explore innovations and modify old concepts. It is a product of seamanship as much as engineering. The fleet is no better than the men who commad it. In the kind of war we are waging in the Pacific our naval achievements are possible by wide co-ordination over a vast front of all elements of military strength.

Task Force No. 58 was covered in its operations by American, Australian, New Zealand and Dutch fighting men who are in action against the Japanese in the South Pacific; the raids on Palau and Truk from the south contributed to the success of No. 58. So did the consistent offensive waged against vulnerable communications of Japan's sea empire by Allied submarines and planes. It is the whole integrated complex of United Nations' power exercised against Japan that is reducing her to an island empire without sea power and a foe without hope of victory.

WHY IS THE JAPANESE HIGH COMMAND SO ANXIOUS?

By ADMIRAL HARRY E. YARNELL

WHAT are the causes of Japan's inability to keep Saipan? What are the anxieties that the Japanese high command and people must be facing as a result of this demonstration of Japanese weakness? In the words of Admiral Nimitz, "One of the major reasons why Japan's grandiose plan for conquest of the entire Pacific has gone glimmering is the enemy's inability to maintain control of the sea lanes."

Japan is becoming an island empire without sea-power in the full sense. Sea-power is not merely a matter of warships; it is a matter of merchant tonnage and the ability of that tonnage to carry out its mission; it is the ability of a nation to keep safe its own water-borne communications with all areas on which it depends.

Japan's navy and strategists haven't been able to maintain command of the sea nor deny it to us. In the month of June we lost no merchant ship of any kind to the enemy anywhere in the Pacific. Meanwhile, we have carried on an itensive campaign against Japanese shipping; of 7,000,000 tons of shipping which Japan is estimated to have had at the start of the war, between one-third and one-half has been sunk.

Japan cannot sustain sinkings at this rate. Japan hasn't the raw materials, shipyards, skilled workers to give her the tonnage she needs. Moreover, as the bombing of Sasebo and Yawata shipyards and steel mills shows, she cannot protect, as we can, the roots from which sea power grows. This direct assault on the roots of sea power is one we know will continue and grow in power and frequency until the strategic pattern that has been so successful in Germany is repeated.

R.A.F. NIGHT PATROLS IN BURMA

Night-patrol fliers of the R.A.F. have a new way of training their foe in Northern Burma. They use a "spotlight" to shine along the tortuous roads which the Japanese use to bring supplies forward.

It was devised by a Hurricane squadron commanded by a 23-year-old Somerset squadron leader, whose pilots after several "beat-ups" of enemy communication routes, found that motor transport was dousing its lights on their approach and travelling in darkness.

They felt more of the lorries caught to go up in flames and be a permanent "write-off," so they chased them by looking for faint shadows on the moonlit roads and then switched their aircraft's powerful landing light on for a brief, vivid glimpse of the target, almost hidden by trees less than 50 feet below.

The method has proved highly effective, if slightly unorthodox, and the squadron is now increasing its tally of lorries nightly.

FINLAND'S DRIFT

By W. N. EWER

PRESIDENT Ryti and Dr. Linkomies have delivered Finland bound into Hitler's hands. She is no longer an independent country, but a German Province.

Ryti's pledge that Finland will not make peace either now or in future without Germany's consent means that nothing short of popular revolt can change the situation. For there is no constitutional way for removing the President until his term expires.

Nor is there any sign of sufficient resolution among Ryti's opponents to give any expectation of revolt. Finland drifts to disaster as if hypnotised.

There seems little doubt that the decisive factor was Ribbentrop's threat that Finland, unless she submitted, would be treated as an enemy of Germany and at once attacked and occupied. It was not only an empty threat, but a great opportunity. For had it been resisted, Finland could have passed at once into the category of the enemies of Germany and her future thus assured.

But the Finns have been victims of their own propaganda. For three years they have been saying that Germany would be victorious: so effectively that to-day they alone in all the world still believe it. They are victims of a tragic self-deception.

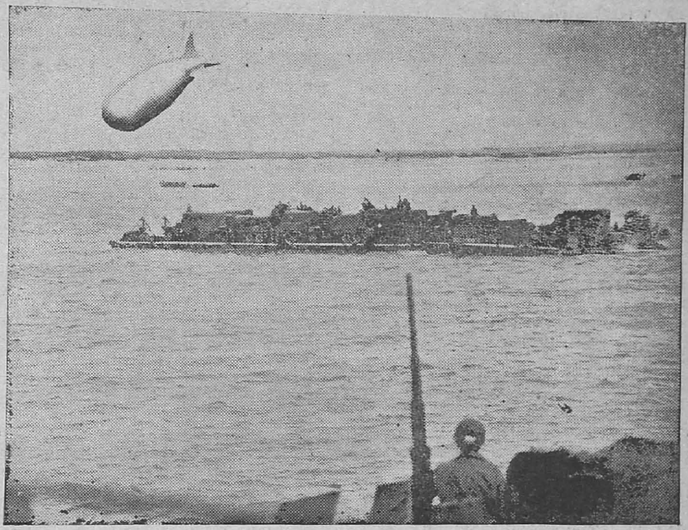
DANISH RESISTANCE

The five days' general strike in Denmark is dramatic evidence of the steady weakening of German strength. It was a spontaneous movement of protest. One feared at first that it was premature and would only serve to bring savage Nazi reprisals. But the German Government did not dare to take measures which might have brought about an armed conflict for which it had no troops to spare.

When it was obvious that no mere threats, no shooting in the streets by German patrols would break the strike which was spreading hourly, and was now supported by the Danish Freedom Council which leads and organises resistance, the German authorities capitulated.

The hated Schalburg Corps of Danish Nazis was withdrawn from Copenhagen: it was announced that the bulk of it would be sent off to the Eastern Front. Promise was given that firing on unarmed crowds would cease. The curfew was to be lifted. There were to be no reprisals. On these terms the strike was called off and work was resumed.

There is no reason to believe that the Germans will keep their promises, if they see any advantage in breaking them. But the fact that they have been compelled to make them, that they have been forced to capitulate to a mass strike in an occupied country is eloquent. It could not have happened a year ago either in Denmark or anywhere else. The Nazi grip is beginning to weaken. It is likely enough that as the news filters through Europe, the Danish example will encourage others.



NORMANDY: RHINO FERRIES LAND HEAVY EQUIPMENT.—Picture taken from a United States Landing Ship Tank, shows a Rhino Ferry landing troops and vehicles on the Normandy Coast.

Picture shows *loaded Rhino ferry going ashore seen from the L.S.T.*

PRIVATE HUN-HUNTING

THE personal initiative which gave British fighter pilots so resounding a victory in the Battle of Britain can still be found in their lineal descendants, the Spitfire, Typhoon and Mustang pilots of Second Tactical Air Force who are providing an air umbrella for our ground forces in the "Entry into Europe".

Modern warfare, involving as it does, the co-ordination and deployment of thousands of machines and millions of men, is apt to be a ponderous affair, demanding the qualities of the business executive and the skilled mechanic rather than the elan, the spirit of adventure, which is traditionally associated with military matters.

Fighter pilots, it is true, spend much of their time on routine duties allotted to them from higher levels, tiny pieces of a jigsaw which is only visible in its entirety to a handful of high-ranking officers, planning on a space-time scale that covers a continent and ranges into the problematic future. Day after day they may play the subordinate—but nonetheless important—role of giving close escort to the bombers which are blasting factories, gun positions, marshalling yards and aerodromes. Alternatively, they may sweep the chosen area to intercept any fighters that the Germans may send up against the bombers, or as frequently happens nowadays when the term "fighters" is an inadequate description for our many-purpose single-engine machines, they may dive-bomb targets of their own.

But there are many pilots, especially among those in their early twenties, who think these time-table trips, usually unopposed by enemy aircraft, leave much to be desired. To come back with a nine-inch flak hole in one of the mainplanes—as an Australian pilot did the other day—would be excitement enough for most people, but not so for them.

Perhaps one squadron on an airfield has had some "joy"—the destruction of German aircraft—but another squadron at the next dispersal has had a succession of uneventful missions, coming back day after day with gun-patches unbroken. A spirit of competition is engendered, the honour of the squadron is at stake and three or four of the pilots put their heads together to plan a show of their own. All the latest "gen" on likely hunting grounds is consulted, charts are scanned and courses plotted, the proposed operation is filled in on the appropriate form, submitted to higher authority and—in most cases—approved.

Not always do these Hun-hunts have the desired effect. Often the handful of fighter planes will penetrate deep into the heart of enemy-occupied Europe without encountering a single hostile plane.

TURKISH REACTIONS TO WESTERN FRONT OFFENSIVE

By LEONARD KIRSCHEN

AT last the Western Front has opened. In Turkey, like elsewhere, there was great initial excitement. The flow of news from the Normandy front being controlled and relatively little more that is usual from a new front. Turkey has after the first 24 hours of excitement settled down to watching.

The general trend of the Turkish Press is to avoid speculation. I understand that the Turkish General Staff was itself surprized at the choice of the beach-head but to-day competent Turkish military circles agree that none better could have been chosen. The whole of the Turkish Press expresses the belief that the fighting will be tough. The Press expresses admiration for the marvellous organization and for the detailed planning of the assault. But nobody wants to make commitments of how the battle will be shaping in the future.

The whole of the Turkish Press, however, expresses the belief that the assault spells the beginning of the last phase of the war. Falih Rifki Atay, writing in the semi-official Ankara newspaper *Ulus*, speaks for the whole Press when he says that if the Allies manage to maintain the territory taken in Normandy and the Germans fail to push them back, the war can be counted as lost for the Germans. He even goes as far as to say that the war might be over before winter this year. This is the general reaction in Turkey.

INTEREST IN ITALIAN FRONT

Of greater immediate importance for Turkey is the Italian front. The capture of Rome was the best news Turkey had had this year. The *Ulus* broke wartime tradition which demands impartial reporting of war news with modest title banners and gave the capture of Rome in one-inch and red ink letters. When the assault came it gave the news in streamer banners across the whole page. But the advance in Italy interests Turkey most. The disorganisation of the German army in Italy has taught the Turks the lesson that Germany really has no reserves to spare.

The rapid advance of the Fifth and Eighth armies after the capture of Rome has impressed everybody. It shows clearly that the Germans thought they could hold their lines before Rome and had not made preparations for a long stand beyond Rome; unless, of course, they are now relying that the northern mountain ranges will prove the natural barrier they have been looking for. The advance of the Allies into central and northern-central Italy opens new perspectives for the Balkan campaign when and if such a campaign takes place.

Troop concentration on a great scale have been observed and mentioned by the Germans on the Rumanian and south Polish sectors of the Russian front. The fighting power of the Russian army does not seem to have diminished at all. The newly opened offensive on the northern front against Finland shows that Russia is this year just as strong as she was in the last. We must, thererfore, expect a large-scale Russian offensive in the Balkans coupled and perhaps co-ordinated with an Allied offensive from Italy. Already there are signs that the Germans are nervous in this part of the world.

NEUTRALITY

Signs of German nervousness come from Bulgaria, in the first place. There no Government seems to be ready to fulfil all German demands and this is troubling the Germans to the extreme.

Then we have the German efforts to pull out landing craft from the Black Sea and send these to the Aegean. Turkey was directly involved in this move because some of the landing craft went through the Turkish Straits. There are loopholes in the Montreux Convention but Turkey must not forget that she herself insists on calling herself an ally of Great Britain. These boats should not have gone through the Straits. An energetic British protest made on behalf of the British Government by the British Ambassador to Turkey, Sir Hughe Knatchbull-Hugessen, however, put this matter right and the passage of other ships was denied to the Germans. One of them has been interned in the Bosphorus Bay of Buyukdere. We notice that every intensification of Allied war effort touches Turkey in some way or other. It is, therefore, natural that Turkey should take such an interest in international developments and more so when these might affect her own security.

The Allied bombing of Axis communications in the Balkans has reduced even the German ardour in tight negotiations. The much trumpeted German trade negotiations have fizzled out. It is now known that the German-Turkish trade treaty was prolonged for another year until June 8, 1945, neither side having given three months' notice of expiry. But every year a new set of lists has to be drawn up in which are marked the quantities of goods Germany will export to Turkey and vice versa and also how much against each.

TRADE AGREEMENT

At the beginning of the year, the Germans had hoped to send the famous Dr. Clodius to Turkey to negotiate. As the weeks passed and the Allies took a firm stand in all matters of trade with the enemy, Turkey was given to understand that to sit down with Dr. Clodius at the same table and negotiate a hard and fast set of lists would be tantamount to helping the enemy of the Allies openly. The Germans on Turkish insistence had to desist from sending Dr. Clodius to Turkey. Instead, Dr. Alber Jenke, German commercial counsellor in Ankara and Ribbentrop's brother-in-law led the German side in the silent and unobtrusive negotiations. On June 9, these came to an end and Jenke left for Berlin to get the approval of the German Ministry of Economics. I understand that the new lists suffered an overall reduction of 50 per cent on those of last year.

As to the operation of the lists there must pass some three months before the exchange can really commence. The mechanism of the clearing agreement which governs all exchange of goods between Germany and Turkey says that German goods will have to arrive first in Turkey before a corresponding amount of Turkish goods is shipped to Germany. In order that these goods may arrive, Turkey must first place orders; Germany must say whether she can accept them; and then she must fulfil these orders; and lastly, she must ship these orders to Turkey. Sea routes there are none at the present moment and land communications are for Germany the problem they constituted for traders in the Middle Ages. They know when the goods have been sent; but they never know whether these goods will eventually get to their destination. It is only after these goods have actually arrived in Turkey that the corresponding quantity of Turkish goods is released for Germany.

FUTURE

Now we all know that chrome has been effectively stopped and none of this precious raw material reaches Germany from Turkey. The overall reduction of 50 per cent touches other vital goods like copper, cotton, and vegetable oils. This means that Germany will get officially half of what she got last year on paper, provided she can supply transport. There will be, as I said before, a time lag of about three months before any of these goods start on their way to Germany. Much can happen in these three months and the Balkan offensive may be in full swing by that time. This is why the Turks are primarily interested in the Italian campaign and the Russian concentrations.

But there still remains the question: What will Turkey do without the goods imported from Germany? We must remember that the British Prime Minister, in a recent speech in the House of Commons on foreign policy, said that if the Turks were going to show willingness to make sacrifices compensation would be forthcoming. It is quite likely that news of this compensation will break quite soon.

Transport difficulties have now been partially overcome and the Mediterranean route is now clear. The fact that one can get British newspapers by mail in about five weeks—and this with all the commitments for the Western Front—speaks for itself. Newspapers were the last item to be handled when shipping space was restricted. That this restriction has now been relaxed is the best indication of how the situation stands.

As regards Turkey and what her intentions are during the next weeks, I think it best not to speculate at this moment; because in the coming weeks it will be possible not only to make forecasts but to define precisely Turkey's future. This is one of the aspects of the Turkish position in relation to international developments in which the Turks are most interested.

WAR DIARY

BRITAIN AND GERMANY

18TH JULY.—The Germans resumed flying bomb attacks over Southern England including London area. More than 750 Allied bombers attacked Peenmunde and Zinnowitz, the main German experimental stations for the flying bomb and long range rocket. Other flying bomb installations in France were also attacked.

Last night Allied planes attacked Berlin. Friedrichshafen was heavily bombed.

Mr. Churchill and Mr. Eden made statements on peace terms to Germany.

19TH JULY.—Flying bomb activity over Southern England including the London area was on a scale bigger than for several weeks. Royal Air Force bombers attacked flying bomb installations in North France.

Last night Allied aircraft bombed Ruhr, Berlin and Cologne. To-day over 3,000 Allied bombers heavily bombed Munich, Peenmunde, Zinnowitz, Kempten, Schwienfurt, Coblenz, Saarbrucken and Augsburg.

20TH JULY.—Germans again sent flying bombs over Southern England.

An attempt was made on Hitler's life by a group of officers of the German army. A bomb exploded about 6 feet from Hitler's right side. Six generals and two admirals were wounded. Hitler, Goering and Admiral Doenitz spoke on the episode. Himmler has been appointed the Commander-in-Chief of the Home army.

Allied aircraft attacked Bremen last night and over 1,200 bombers attacked Munich, Koblenz, Schwienfurt and Saarbrucken.

21ST JULY.—Flying bombs continued to raid Southern England.

United States bombers attacked Regensberg, Schurenfurt and Hamburg. An Ankara report stated that Hitler was under arrest. It was reported that a civil war started in Germany.

The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull said "The attack on Hitler and his explanatory speech clearly indicate the realization that Germany's impending defeat is spreading to the Reich."

22ND JULY.—Germans continued their activity over Southern counties with flying bombs. London area also was affected.

Berlin was bombed last night. More than 1,100 planes attacked places in South Germany.

23RD JULY.—More flying bombs came over Southern England to-day. Royal Air Force bombers attacked flying bomb sites in North France.

Kiel and Berlin were heavily bombed.

24TH JULY.—Flying bomb activity continued over Southern England.

Allied aircraft attacked Berlin and Stuttgart.

25TH JULY.—Germans continued to send flying bombs over Southern counties. Military objectives in Germany were attacked by Royal Air Force.

Mr. Eden told the Commons that he was not yet in a position to make a considered statement about the recent "dramatic developments in Germany."

Hitler issued a new decree ordering the total mobilization of Germany and occupied territories.

* * *

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE ATLANTIC

18TH JULY.—Two ammunition ships exploded at the port of Chicago.

20TH JULY.—The Democratic Party Convention nominated Franklin D. Roosevelt Democratic candidate for a fourth term as President of the United States. President Roosevelt made a broadcast speech.

21ST JULY.—The Democratic Convention nominated Senator Harry Truman for the Vice-Presidentship of the United States.

24TH JULY.—The United States Navy department announced that President Roosevelt has approved of the United States plan to increase personnel on active duty in the United States Navy by 194,000 to 3,200,000 by December 31, 1944. The President has also authorized the Navy to base plans upon a total strength of 3,389,000 by June 30, 1945, if needed.

* * *

INDIA, BURMA AND CEYLON

18TH JULY.—Allied troops advanced two miles from Khakunow and captured Thinunggei.

19TH JULY.—Allied forces took Sakok.

20TH JULY.—Allied troops were south of Moviang, the last important village in the Imphal Plain.

21ST JULY.—Prisoners were taken during patrol activity in the Myitkyina area.

22ND JULY.—Chindits captured Ngusharawng and Pungan.

23RD JULY.—Allied troops advanced along the Tiddim Road and reached near Torbung.

24TH JULY.—Further advances down the Tiddim Road had driven the last organized Japanese force from the plain of Imphal.

25TH JULY.—The main action has shifted to Palel-Tamu Road. Seven hills, all within 8 or 9 miles of Palel, have been taken.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND

18TH JULY.—A big drive towards East Prussia developed from Grodno. Russians opened a major offensive in the Khovel area. Soviet troops captured Gorokhov, Lokacze, Radziechow, Brody, Zlochow, Busk, Kamionka, Krasnoye, Choloyow, Jezierna, Zoblotce, Berestovitsa, Gavnovka, Antopol, Krasnogorodskaya and over 750 localities.

19TH JULY.—The Russian troops captured Sokal, Mosty Velikie, Krynki, Klestheli, Shanino, Elenevo and over 700 localities. The Soviet troops crossed the *Curzon line*.

20TH JULY.—The Soviet forces captured Ratno, Meloryta, Lubomil, Opalin, Vladimir Volynsiki, Rawa Russka, Glimany, Przemyskiany, Doroshev, Kobryn and over 800 localities.

21ST JULY.—The Russian troops captured *Ostrov*, Volynsk, Baczacz, Solotniki, Kozovo, Divin, Shatsk and about 300 localities.

22ND JULY.—The Soviet troops captured Kholm and Ponevezh. Russians broke into Pskov. Other towns occupied include Kraslava, Krinki, Semiatichi, Kamanets, Tonaszow, Luhacew, Nemiviow, Magerad, Gorouce and over 450 localities.

23RD JULY.—The last city of pre-war Russia, *Pskov* was captured by the Russians. Pundori, Lupza, Karsava, Iskusna, Zednia, Wlodawa, Grodisrche, Klenovicze, Zamosce, Hanna, Czerne, Tarnograd and over 1,200 localities were also captured.

24TH JULY.—The Russians captured *Lublin*. Germans evacuated Siedlice and Yaroslov. Numerous other important towns and about 1,000 localities were captured including Wilgoray, Rogatin, Galich, Sokolki, etc.

25TH JULY.—Russian thrust towards Warsaw continued. An official statement on Polish-Soviet relations issued in Moscow said that the Soviet Government viewed the entry of the Red Army into Poland as entry into an Allied country.

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ITALY, AFRICA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

18TH JULY.—The Allied troops captured Levane and Quarata and *Ancona*, Agugliano and Camerano.

19TH JULY.—American troops captured *Leghorn*. The Eighth Army troops captured Monet Vardri. The Fifth Army took Pontedera.

FOR YOUR RADIO DIARY.

MADRAS—AUGUST	1st—9-45 a.m.	Topical Talk.
" "	2nd—9-45 a.m.	"G.I." Relay from Delhi.
" "	3rd—9-00 a.m.	Common Cause.
" "	4th—9-45 a.m.	"World Affairs"—Relay from B.B.C.
" "	5th—9-45 a.m.	"For the Fighting Forces."
" "	7th—9-00 a.m.	The Sword and the Plough share in Russia—By G. Parthasarathi.

20TH JULY.—The Allied forces captured several towns including San Dunato and Radda.

The Allied Control Commission announced the transfer to the Italian Government, of five provinces with effect from to-day, and three more, including Rome, on August 15, by which date one-third of Italy will have been handed over by the Allies.

21ST JULY.—The Allied forces captured Monte Querchiabella and Monte San Michaele.

22ND JULY.—Allied troops were within four miles of Pisa.

23RD JULY.—American troops entered *Pisa*. Citta di Castello was also occupied.

Allied troops occupied Simi island in the Dodecanese.

24TH JULY.—The Fifth Army troops reached the town of Marina Di Pisa. Eighth Army troops occupied Terranuova.

It is announced that H. M. King George VI left England on Saturday and reached Italy on Sunday, on a short visit.

25TH JULY.—Allied armies were within 10 miles of Florence.

* * *

VICHY, FREE FRANCE AND THE OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

18TH JULY.—Americans took St. Lo. British and Canadian troops broke through into the area east of Orne and south-east of Caen.

Hitler has appointed General Grase as the new Commander-in-Chief of Belgium and Northern France. The German Military Government in Belgium has been changed into a civil administration under Gauleiter Grohe.

19TH JULY.—Fierce fighting went on in Faubourg and in the plains south and east of Caen.

General Montgomery said that the Allies have captured 60,000 Germans and killed 8,000. "It is a reasonable conjecture that we have wiped off 156,000 Germans" he added.

20TH JULY.—The Allied army captured Bourguebus, Trenouville, Bras, Hebert Follie, Fleury and Cagny.

21ST JULY.—Bad weather in Normandy seriously curtailed land operations. Allies captured Saint Andre Sur Orne and Fremonville, Granville, Sevzs, Raids and Berigny.

22ND JULY.—Allies took Emiville and Etabaux. British troops re-occupied Maltot.

23RD JULY.—Etavaux was cleared of enemy troops. It is revealed that Mr. Churchill went back to England after a three days' tour of Normandy.

24TH JULY.—Sharp local engagements took place south of the river Seves, in the area north of Esquay and on the river Orne, south of Maltot. Allied forward positions remained substantially unchanged.

25TH JULY.—Almost the whole of the 100-mile Normandy battle front was ablaze with battle to-day. General Omar Bradley's First United States Army and General Dempsey's Second Army launched vigorous offensives in their respective sectors.

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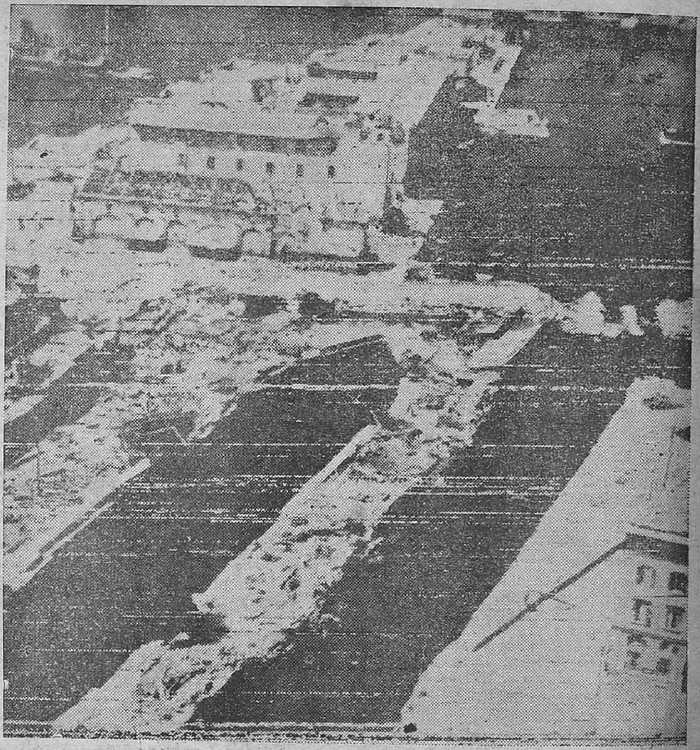
THE NEUTRAL COUNTRIES

18TH JULY.—General Franco, addressing the annual Assembly of the Falangist National Council said "Spain is ready to collaborate for peace and offer fruits of her experience to other peoples."



Leghorn : Dry docks and buildings either destroyed by mining or by Allied bombs.

* * *

THE FAR EAST

18TH JULY.—United States ships shelled Guam on Saturday. Allied planes raided Rabaul, Yap, etc.

General Tojo made a statement on the set-back in Marianas.

It is announced that the Japanese Premier and War Minister, Hideki Tojo had given up his post as Chief of Staff. General Yoshijiro Umezu has succeeded him. Naval Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada was relieved of his post. Further changes in Jap High Command were also reported.

19TH JULY.—It is revealed heavy United States warships shelled Guam on 16th July. American planes attacked Jap positions in the Marshall islands.

Mr. Eden told Parliament that the United States and the British Governments followed the situation in China with the closest attention and supplied the Chinese Government with every assistance in their power.

It is announced that the entire Japanese Cabinet has resigned.

It is reported that United States submarines have sunk 14 more Jap ships in the Pacific recently.

20TH JULY.—It is announced that United States bombers attacked Chichi, Jima and Haha in the Bonin islands on Tuesday. American forces landed on Guam island.

General Kuniaki Koiso and Admiral Mitsumasa conferred to form a new Cabinet for Japan.

21ST JULY.—Allied bombers attacked Rabaul, Yap and Manokwari.

22ND JULY.—A new Jap Cabinet with General Kuniaki Koiso as Premier is announced.

Fierce fighting took place in Guam.

23RD JULY.—American troops made satisfactory progress in Guam. They took Mount Abfan in the southern area

24TH JULY.—It is announced that United States troops landed on Tinian island in the Marianas and established firm beachheads. In Guam, Cablas and Piti have been captured.

25TH JULY.—Jap forces estimated at 45,000 has been pocketed in the Wewak Sector.

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